BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 91-141-G - ORDER NO. 92-823

SEPTEMBER 21, 1992

IN RE: Piedmont Natural Gas Company -) ORDER APPROVING
Application for Adjustment in) STIPULATION AND
its Gas Rate Schedules and) AGREEMENT
Tariffs.)

This matter is before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) upon the Motion of Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Piedmont) and the South Carolina Consumer Advocate (the Consumer Advocate) in which the Movants jointly request the Commission to approve the Stipulation and Agreement (Settlement) of September 14, 1992 attached to this Order. If approved by this Commission, the Settlement will resolve all issues raised by (1) the appeal (Appeal) by Piedmont of Order No. 91-1003 issued by the Commission on November 27, 1991 and Order No. 91-1114 issued by the Commission on December 12, 1992, which Appeal is presently pending before the Circuit Court for Richland County, and (2) the petition (Petition) filed by Piedmont in the above-captioned docket on June 25, 1992.

The Commission has carefully considered the terms and provisions of the Settlement and finds and concludes that they represent a fair resolution of the issues addressed therein; therefore, the Settlement attached to this order is approved without modification.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. That the Motion for Approval of the September 14 Stipulation between Piedmont and the Consumer Advocate is granted.
- 2. That Piedmont file rate schedules within ten (10) days of the date of this Order reflecting the terms of the Stipulation and Agreement.
- 3. That this Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Evecutive Director

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 91-141-G

September <u>1</u>, 1992

IN RE: Docket No. 91-141-G - Piedmont) STIPULATION
Natural Gas Company - Application) AND
for Adjustment in its Gas Rate) AGREEMENT
Schedules and Tariffs

Subject to the approval of the South Carolina Public Service Commission ("Commission"), Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. ("Piedmont") and the Consumer Advocate of South Carolina (Consumer Advocate) hereby stipulate and agree as follows:

- 1. This Stipulation and Agreement ("Settlement") resolves all issues raised by (1) the appeal ("Appeal") by Piedmont of Order No. 91-1003 issued by the Commission on November 27, 1991 and Order No. 91-1114 issued by the Commission on December 12, 1991, which Appeal is presently pending before the Circuit Court for Richland County, and (2) the Petition ("Petition") filed by Piedmont in the above-captioned docket on June 25, 1992.
- 2. Effective October 1, 1992, Piedmont will withdraw the Appeal and discontinue collecting under bond those amounts provided for in Commission Order No. 92-30 except as otherwise set forth below.
- 3. Piedmont has been collecting pursuant to bond under the Commission's Order No. 92-30 certain rates and charges in excess of those authorized by the commission in Order no. 91-

1003 and Order 91-1114. Piedmont will deal with these amounts as follows:

- (a) Piedmont will refund all bonded amounts which have been collected from Rate Schedule 201 during the period beginning February 1, 1992 and ending September 30, 1992 ("Bond Period"), plus twelve percent (12%) interest.
- (b) Piedmont will retain all bonded amounts which have been collected under Rate Schedules 202, 203, 204, 213 and 214 during the Bond Period.
- 4. Effective October 1, 1992, Piedmont shall be authorized to increase Rate Schedules 202, 203, 204, 213 and 214 to the full advertised rates as set forth in Piedmont's original application for an increase in certain rates and charges for natural gas services provided by Piedmont in South Carolina filed in the above-captioned docket on May 24, 1991.
- 5. Piedmont agrees not to file a general rate case under the provisions of S.C. Code \$58-5-240 (as amended) to increase its rates in South Carolina prior to January 1, 1993; however, nothing herein shall affect any rights Piedmont may have to adjust its rates pursuant to any previously authorized procedures which permit Piedmont to adjust its rates without the filing of a general rate increase.
- 6. No party to this agreement shall assert in any future proceeding that the filing by Piedmont on June 25, 1992 or any action taken pursuant to such filing shall cause a new 12-month period to commence under the provisions of South Carolina Code \$58-5-240(F).
- 7. This Settlement shall not have any precedential significance with respect to any issue which is the subject to

the Appeal, and the parties hereto reserve all rights to take any position that they deem appropriate in future proceedings.

8. This Settlement shall become effective upon its approval by the Commission without change or modification.

This the ______ day of September, 1992.

PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC.

Bv:

CONSUMER ADVOCATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

By: